

REMARKS

In the above-referenced Office Action, the Examiner divided the claims into the following species:

A1) the microelectronic substrate encapsulated prior to mounting to a support;
and

A2) the microelectronic substrate and support encapsulated.

Upon election of one of the species, the Examiner required an election of subspecies from the following:

B1) laser removal of encapsulant in direct contact with the microelectronic substrate; and

B2) laser removal of encapsulant adjacent the microelectronic substrate.

As a preliminary matter, the undersigned attorney notes that no claims require "the microelectronic substrate [to be] encapsulated prior to mounting to a support [member]" as specified in Species A1. Moreover, the undersigned attorney requests the Examiner reconsider the requirement to elect a Subspecies because Subspecies B2 is generic to Subspecies B1. Specifically, "laser removal of encapsulant adjacent the microelectronic substrate" can include "laser removal of encapsulant in direct contact with the microelectronic substrate" because encapsulant in direct contact with the substrate is also adjacent to the substrate. Therefore, the claims directed to "encapsulant adjacent the substrate" are generic to the claims in which the encapsulant is in direct contact with the substrate.

In response, the applicant elects Species A2, Subspecies B2, claims 2-9, 32-36, and 64-82. The foregoing election is made with the understanding that the Examiner and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office are now bound to the finding of non-obviousness between each of the species.

Upon allowance of the generic claims, applicant requests consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or which otherwise include all the limitations of the allowed generic claims.

No fees are believed due with this communication. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge any deficiency in fees herein to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

Respectfully submitted,
Perkins Coie LLP

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David T. Dutcher
Registration No. 51,638

Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 25096
Perkins Coie LLP
P.O. Box 1247
Seattle, Washington 98111-1247
(206) 359-8000